

Testimony of Patricia Prucknic, Second Year Student at Michigan State College of Law, in Support of SB 1075 Providing for Genocide Education in Michigan's Public High Schools

SB 1075 addresses the lack of knowledge and understanding of genocide in today's society. Genocide is a real problem in the world today and is likely to occur in the future. It is important for Michigan students to understand the importance Genocide in order for prevention to be possible.

Mandating the teaching of genocide education is important for the following reasons:

- Awareness enables prevention;
- Genocide can occur anywhere;
- Genocide is a current problem;
- Survivors and witnesses of genocide will not be around forever, so it is the job of future generations to remember their stories and the consequences of genocide on humanity;
- Knowledge of Genocide addresses many areas of rights important to the United States such as equality, freedom from racial and sexual discrimination, and democracy.

Genocide Education will enable Michigan students to be informed citizens able to address the threat of genocide and human rights violations and prevent them from occurring.

America has recognized genocide as a serious human rights violation by being a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide. SB 1075 is a simple way to prevent genocide from continuing to occur in the future.